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3
4 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
5 DISTRICT OF NEVADA

6 * * *

7 THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON,
8 Plaintiff(s),
9 v.
10 SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY
11 ASSOCIATION, et al.,
12 Defendant(s).

Case No. 2:16-CV-523 JCM (CWH)

ORDER

13
14 Presently before the court is plaintiff Bank of New York Mellon's ("BNYM") motion for
15 summary judgment. (ECF No. 57). Defendant Grey Spencer Dr. Trust ("GSDT") filed a response
16 (ECF No. 64), to which plaintiff replied (ECF No. 67).

17 Also before the court is defendant's motion for summary judgment. (ECF No. 47).
18 Plaintiff filed a response (ECF No. 56), to which defendant replied (ECF No. 62).

19 Also before the court is defendant's motion to strike plaintiff's jury demand. (ECF No.
20 63). Plaintiff filed a response (ECF No. 68), to which defendant replied (ECF No. 69).

21 **I. Facts**

22 This case involves a dispute over real property located at 4395 Grey Spencer Dr., Las
23 Vegas, Nevada, 89141 (the "property"). (ECF No. 1). On October 24, 2006, Dagoberto Hidalgo
24 purchased the property. *Id.* Hidalgo obtained a loan in the amount of \$732,126 from Countrywide
25 Bank, N.A. ("Countrywide") to finance the purchase. *Id.* The loan was secured by a deed of trust
26 recorded on October 31, 2006. *Id.*; (ECF No. 57-1). The deed of trust lists Countrywide as the
27 lender and Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS") as the beneficiary "solely
28 as a nominee for Lender and Lender's successors and assigns." (ECF No. 57-1). The covenants,

1 conditions, and restrictions (“CC&R”) governing the property contained a mortgage protection
2 clause. (ECF No. 57-12).

3 On March 8, 2010, MERS assigned its interest in the deed of trust to plaintiff via a
4 corporation assignment of deed of trust (recorded on March 10, 2010). (ECF No. 57-2).

5 Hidalgo stopped paying dues to Southern Highlands Community Association (“the HOA”).
6 On September 1, 2009, Alessi & Koenig, LLC (“Alessi”), acting on behalf of the HOA, recorded
7 a notice of delinquent assessment lien, stating an amount due of \$844.49. (ECF No. 57-3).

8 On November 20, 2009, Alessi, acting on behalf of the HOA, recorded a notice of default
9 and election to sell to satisfy the delinquent assessment lien, stating an amount due of \$1,889.
10 (ECF No. 57-4). On December 22, 2009, Alessi, acting on behalf of the HOA, recorded a second
11 notice of default and election to sell to satisfy the delinquent assessment lien, stating an amount
12 due of \$1,889. (ECF No. 57-5). On November 16, 2010, Alessi, acting on behalf of the HOA,
13 recorded a third notice of default and election to sell to satisfy the delinquent assessment lien,
14 stating an amount due of \$3,201.04. (ECF No. 57-6). On January 7, 2011, Alessi, acting on behalf
15 of the HOA, recorded a fourth notice of default and election to sell to satisfy the delinquent
16 assessment lien, stating an amount due of \$2,520.27. (ECF No. 57-7).

17 On April 2, 2012, Alessi, acting on behalf of the HOA, recorded a notice of trustee’s sale,
18 stating an amount due of \$3,570.85 and an anticipated sale date of April 25, 2012. (ECF No. 57-
19 8). On July 5, 2012, Alessi, acting on behalf of the HOA, recorded a second notice of foreclosure
20 sale, stating an amount due of \$2,737.16 and an anticipated sale date of July 25, 2012. (ECF No.
21 57-9).

22 On October 3, 2012, the HOA foreclosed on the property. (ECF No. 57-10). Defendant
23 GSDT purchased the property at the foreclosure sale for \$8,800. *Id.* A foreclosure deed in favor
24 of defendant GSDT was recorded on October 11, 2012. *Id.*

25 On March 9, 2016, plaintiff filed its complaint, alleging quiet title/declaratory judgment
26 against all defendants, breach of NRS 116.1113 against the HOA and Alessi, wrongful foreclosure
27 against the HOA and Alessi, and injunctive relief against GSDT. (ECF No. 1).

1 In the instant motions, plaintiff and defendant GSDT both move for summary judgment in
2 their favor. (ECF Nos. 47, 57).

3 **II. Legal Standard**

4 The Federal Rules of Civil Procedure allow summary judgment when the pleadings,
5 depositions, answers to interrogatories, and admissions on file, together with the affidavits, if any,
6 show that “there is no genuine dispute as to any material fact and the movant is entitled to a
7 judgment as a matter of law.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(a). A principal purpose of summary judgment is
8 “to isolate and dispose of factually unsupported claims.” *Celotex Corp. v. Catrett*, 477 U.S. 317,
9 323–24 (1986).

10 For purposes of summary judgment, disputed factual issues should be construed in favor
11 of the non-moving party. *Lujan v. Nat’l Wildlife Fed.*, 497 U.S. 871, 888 (1990). However, to be
12 entitled to a denial of summary judgment, the nonmoving party must “set forth specific facts
13 showing that there is a genuine issue for trial.” *Id.*

14 In determining summary judgment, a court applies a burden-shifting analysis. The moving
15 party must first satisfy its initial burden. “When the party moving for summary judgment would
16 bear the burden of proof at trial, it must come forward with evidence which would entitle it to a
17 directed verdict if the evidence went uncontroverted at trial. In such a case, the moving party has
18 the initial burden of establishing the absence of a genuine issue of fact on each issue material to
19 its case.” *C.A.R. Transp. Brokerage Co. v. Darden Rests., Inc.*, 213 F.3d 474, 480 (9th Cir. 2000)
20 (citations omitted).

21 By contrast, when the nonmoving party bears the burden of proving the claim or defense,
22 the moving party can meet its burden in two ways: (1) by presenting evidence to negate an essential
23 element of the non-moving party’s case; or (2) by demonstrating that the nonmoving party failed
24 to make a showing sufficient to establish an element essential to that party’s case on which that
25 party will bear the burden of proof at trial. *See Celotex Corp.*, 477 U.S. at 323–24. If the moving
26 party fails to meet its initial burden, summary judgment must be denied and the court need not
27 consider the nonmoving party’s evidence. *See Adickes v. S.H. Kress & Co.*, 398 U.S. 144, 159–
28 60 (1970).

1 If the moving party satisfies its initial burden, the burden then shifts to the opposing party
2 to establish that a genuine issue of material fact exists. *See Matsushita Elec. Indus. Co. v. Zenith*
3 *Radio Corp.*, 475 U.S. 574, 586 (1986). To establish the existence of a factual dispute, the
4 opposing party need not establish a material issue of fact conclusively in its favor. It is sufficient
5 that “the claimed factual dispute be shown to require a jury or judge to resolve the parties’ differing
6 versions of the truth at trial.” *T.W. Elec. Serv., Inc. v. Pac. Elec. Contractors Ass’n*, 809 F.2d 626,
7 631 (9th Cir. 1987).

8 In other words, the nonmoving party cannot avoid summary judgment by relying solely on
9 conclusory allegations that are unsupported by factual data. *See Taylor v. List*, 880 F.2d 1040,
10 1045 (9th Cir. 1989). Instead, the opposition must go beyond the assertions and allegations of the
11 pleadings and set forth specific facts by producing competent evidence that shows a genuine issue
12 for trial. *See Celotex*, 477 U.S. at 324.

13 At summary judgment, a court’s function is not to weigh the evidence and determine the truth, but
14 to determine whether there is a genuine issue for trial. *See Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc.*, 477
15 U.S. 242, 249 (1986). The evidence of the nonmovant is “to be believed, and all justifiable
16 inferences are to be drawn in his favor.” *Id.* at 255. But if the evidence of the nonmoving party is
17 merely colorable or is not significantly probative, summary judgment may be granted. *See id.* at
18 249–50.

19 **III. Discussion**

20 As an initial matter, claim (4) of plaintiff’s complaint will be dismissed without prejudice
21 as the court follows the well-settled rule in that a claim for “injunctive relief” standing alone is not
22 a cause of action. *See, e.g., In re Wal-Mart Wage & Hour Emp’t Practices Litig.*, 490 F. Supp. 2d
23 1091, 1130 (D. Nev. 2007); *Tillman v. Quality Loan Serv. Corp.*, No. 2:12-CV-346 JCM RJJ, 2012
24 WL 1279939, at *3 (D. Nev. Apr. 13, 2012) (finding that “injunctive relief is a remedy, not an
25 independent cause of action”); *Jensen v. Quality Loan Serv. Corp.*, 702 F. Supp. 2d 1183, 1201
26 (E.D. Cal. 2010) (“A request for injunctive relief by itself does not state a cause of action.”).

27 The court takes judicial notice of the following recorded documents: the first deed of trust
28 (ECF No. 57-1); the assignment to plaintiff (ECF No. 57-2); the notice of delinquent assessment

(ECF No. 57-3); the notices of default and election to sell (ECF Nos. 57-4, 57-5, 57-6, 57-7); the notices of foreclosure sale (ECF Nos. 57-8, 57-9); and the foreclosure deed upon sale (ECF No. 57-10). *See, e.g., United States v. Corinthian Colls.*, 655 F.3d 984, 998–99 (9th Cir. 2011) (holding that a court may take judicial notice of public records if the facts noticed are not subject to reasonable dispute); *Intri-Plex Tech., Inv. v. Crest Grp., Inc.*, 499 F.3d 1048, 1052 (9th Cir. 2007).

i. Quiet title

Under Nevada law, “[a]n action may be brought by any person against another who claims an estate or interest in real property, adverse to the person bringing the action for the purpose of determining such adverse claim.” Nev. Rev. Stat. § 40.010. “A plea to quiet title does not require any particular elements, but each party must plead and prove his or her own claim to the property in question and a plaintiff’s right to relief therefore depends on superiority of title.” *Chapman v. Deutsche Bank Nat’l Trust Co.*, 302 P.3d 1103, 1106 (Nev. 2013) (citations and internal quotation marks omitted). Therefore, for a party to succeed on its quiet title action, it needs to show that its claim to the property is superior to all others. *See also Breliant v. Preferred Equities Corp.*, 918 P.2d 314, 318 (Nev. 1996) (“In a quiet title action, the burden of proof rests with the plaintiff to prove good title in himself.”).

Section 116.3116(1) of the Nevada Revised Statutes¹ gives an HOA a lien on its homeowners’ residences for unpaid assessments and fines; moreover, NRS 116.3116(2) gives priority to that HOA lien over all other liens and encumbrances with limited exceptions—such as “[a] first security interest on the unit recorded before the date on which the assessment sought to be enforced became delinquent.” Nev. Rev. Stat. § 116.3116(2)(b).

The statute then carves out a partial exception to subparagraph (2)(b)’s exception for first security interests. *See* Nev. Rev. Stat. § 116.3116(2). In *SFR Investments Pool 1 v. U.S. Bank*, the Nevada Supreme Court provided the following explanation:

As to first deeds of trust, NRS 116.3116(2) thus splits an HOA lien into two pieces, a superpriority piece and a subpriority piece. The superpriority piece, consisting of the last nine months of unpaid HOA dues and maintenance and nuisance-abatement

¹ The 2015 Legislature revised Chapter 116 substantially. 2015 Nev. Stat., ch. 266. Except where otherwise indicated, the references in this order to statutes codified in NRS Chapter 116 are to the version of the statutes in effect in 2011–13, when the events giving rise to this litigation occurred.

1 charges, is “prior to” a first deed of trust. The subpriority piece, consisting of all
2 other HOA fees or assessments, is subordinate to a first deed of trust.
3 334 P.3d 408, 411 (Nev. 2014) (“*SFR Investments*”).

4 Chapter 116 of the Nevada Revised Statutes permits an HOA to enforce its superpriority
5 lien by nonjudicial foreclosure sale. *Id.* at 415. Thus, “NRS 116.3116(2) provides an HOA a true
6 superpriority lien, proper foreclosure of which will extinguish a first deed of trust.” *Id.* at 419; *see*
7 *also* Nev. Rev. Stat. § 116.31162(1) (providing that “the association may foreclose its lien by sale”
8 upon compliance with the statutory notice and timing rules).

9 Subsection (1) of NRS 116.31166 provides that the recitals in a deed made pursuant to
10 NRS 116.31164 of the following are conclusive proof of the matters recited:

- 11 (a) Default, the mailing of the notice of delinquent assessment, and the recording
12 of the notice of default and election to sell;
13 (b) The elapsing of the 90 days; and
14 (c) The giving of notice of sale[.]

15 Nev. Rev. Stat. § 116.31166(1)(a)–(c).² “The ‘conclusive’ recitals concern default, notice, and
16 publication of the [notice of sale], all statutory prerequisites to a valid HOA lien foreclosure sale
17 as stated in NRS 116.31162 through NRS 116.31164, the sections that immediately precede and
18 give context to NRS 116.31166.” *Shadow Wood Homeowners Assoc. v. N.Y. Cmty. Bancorp., Inc.*,
19 366 P.3d 1105 (Nev. 2016) (“*Shadow Wood*”). Nevertheless, courts retain the equitable authority
20 to consider quiet title actions when a HOA’s foreclosure deed contains statutorily conclusive
21 recitals. *See id.* at 1112.

22 Here, the parties have provided the recorded notice of delinquent assessment, the recorded
23 notices of default and election to sell, the recorded notices of trustee’s sale, and the recorded

24 ² The statute further provides as follows:

25 2. Such a deed containing those recitals is conclusive against the unit's
26 former owner, his or her heirs and assigns, and all other persons. The receipt for the
27 purchase money contained in such a deed is sufficient to discharge the purchaser
28 from obligation to see to the proper application of the purchase money.

3. The sale of a unit pursuant to NRS 116.31162, 116.31163 and 116.31164
vests in the purchaser the title of the unit’s owner without equity or right of
redemption.

Nev. Rev. Stat. § 116.31166(2)–(3).

1 trustee's deed upon sale. *See* (ECF Nos. 57-3, 57-4, 57-5, 57-6, 57-7, 57-8, 57-9, 57-10). Pursuant
2 to NRS 116.31166, these recitals in the recorded foreclosure deed are conclusive to the extent that
3 they implicate compliance with NRS 116.31162 through NRS 116.31164, which provide the
4 statutory prerequisites of a valid foreclosure. *See id.* at 1112 (“[T]he recitals made conclusive by
5 operation of NRS 116.31166 implicate compliance only with the statutory prerequisites to
6 foreclosure.”). Therefore, pursuant to NRS 116.31166 and the recorded foreclosure deed, the
7 foreclosure sale is valid to the extent that it complied with NRS 116.31162 through NRS
8 116.31164.

9 Importantly, while NRS 116.3116 accords certain deed recitals conclusive effect—*e.g.*,
10 default, notice, and publication of the notice of sale—it does not conclusively, as a matter of law,
11 entitle the buyer at the HOA foreclosure sale to success on a quiet title claim. *See Shadow Wood*,
12 366 P.3d at 1112 (rejecting contention that NRS 116.31166 defeats, as a matter of law, actions to
13 quiet title). Thus, the question remains whether plaintiff has demonstrated sufficient grounds to
14 justify setting aside the foreclosure sale. *See id.*

15 “When sitting in equity . . . courts must consider the entirety of the circumstances that bear
16 upon the equities. This includes considering the status and actions of all parties involved, including
17 whether an innocent party may be harmed by granting the desired relief.” *Id.*

18 Plaintiff raises the following grounds in support of its motion for summary judgment³ and
19 against defendant's motion: the constitutionality of NRS 116.3116 and the Ninth Circuit decision
20 in *Bourne Valley Court Trust v. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.*, 832 F.3d 1154 (9th Cir. 2016) (“*Bourne*
21 *Valley*”); and commercial reasonability under *Shadow Wood*. (ECF Nos. 56, 57, 67).

22 Defendant responds with the following relevant arguments in support of its motion for
23 summary judgment and against plaintiff's motion: the foreclosure sale extinguished the first deed
24 of trust; plaintiff's constitutional challenges to the statute fail on legal and factual grounds; the
25 foreclosure sale was commercially reasonable; plaintiff failed to act to prevent the foreclosure; and
26 GSdT is protected by the bona fide purchaser doctrine. (ECF Nos. 47, 62, 64).

27
28 ³ Plaintiff does not discuss its claims for wrongful foreclosure and breach of NRS 116.1113
against the HOA and Alessi in its motion for summary judgment. Accordingly, the court will
construe plaintiff's motion as one requesting summary judgment on its claim for quiet title.

1 The court will address in turn the parties competing arguments regarding due process and
2 commercial reasonability.

3 ***1. Due process***

4 Plaintiff argues that NRS Chapter 116 is unconstitutional under *Bourne Valley*, wherein
5 the Ninth Circuit held that the HOA foreclosure statute is facially unconstitutional. (ECF No. 57).
6 Plaintiff further contends that *Bourne Valley* renders any factual issues concerning actual notice
7 irrelevant. *Id.* at 9.

8 The Ninth Circuit held that NRS 116.3116's "opt-in" notice scheme, which required a
9 HOA to alert a mortgage lender that it intended to foreclose only if the lender had affirmatively
10 requested notice, facially violated mortgage lenders' constitutional due process rights. *Bourne*
11 *Valley*, 832 F.3d at 1157–58. The facially unconstitutional provision, as identified in *Bourne*
12 *Valley*, exists in NRS 116.31163(2). *See id.* at 1158. At issue is the "opt-in" provision that
13 unconstitutionally shifts the notice burden to holders of the property interest at risk. *See id.*

14 "A first deed of trust holder only has a constitutional grievance if he in fact did not receive
15 reasonable notice of the sale at which his property rights was extinguished." *Wells Fargo Bank,*
16 *N.A. v. Sky Vista Homeowners Ass'n*, No. 315CV00390RCJNPC, 2017 WL 1364583, at *4 (D.
17 Nev. Apr. 13, 2017). To state a procedural due process claim, a claimant must allege "(1) a
18 deprivation of a constitutionally protected liberty or property interest, and (2) a denial of adequate
19 procedural protections." *Brewster v. Bd. of Educ. of Lynwood Unified Sch. Dist.*, 149 F.3d 971,
20 982 (9th Cir. 1998).

21 Here, plaintiff has failed to show that it did not receive proper notice. Plaintiff does not
22 argue that it lacked notice, actual or otherwise, of the event that affected the deed of trust (*i.e.*, the
23 foreclosure sale). Plaintiff's challenge based on due process and *Bourne Valley* fails as a matter
24 of law.

25 Further, plaintiff confuses constitutionally mandated notice with the notices required to
26 conduct a valid foreclosure sale. Due process does not require actual notice. *Jones v. Flowers*,
27 547 U.S. 220, 226 (2006). Rather, it requires notice "reasonably calculated, under all the
28 circumstances, to apprise interested parties of the pendency of the action and afford them an

1 opportunity to present their objections.” *Mullane v. Central Hanover Bank & Trust Co.*, 339 U.S.
2 306, 314 (1950); *see also Bourne Valley*, 832 F.3d at 1158.

3 **2. Commercial reasonability**

4 Plaintiff argues that the foreclosure sale was commercially unreasonable because the
5 property sold for less than 2% of its fair market value, which is grossly inadequate so as to justify
6 setting the foreclosure aside. (ECF No. 57). Plaintiff further argues that the *Shadow Wood* court
7 adopted the restatement approach, quoting the opinion as holding that a “court is warranted in
8 invalidating a sale where the price is less than 20 percent of fair market value.” (ECF No. 57 at
9 13) (emphasis omitted).

10 NRS 116.3116 codifies the Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act (“UCIOA”) in
11 Nevada. *See* Nev. Rev. Stat. § 116.001 (“This chapter may be cited as the Uniform Common-
12 Interest Ownership Act”); *see also SFR Investments*, 334 P.3d at 410. Numerous courts have
13 interpreted the UCIOA and NRS 116.3116 as imposing a commercial reasonableness standard on
14 foreclosure of association liens.⁴

15 In *Shadow Wood*, the Nevada Supreme Court held that an HOA’s foreclosure sale may be
16 set aside under a court’s equitable powers notwithstanding any recitals on the foreclosure deed
17 where there is a “grossly inadequate” sales price and “fraud, unfairness, or oppression.” 366 P.3d
18 at 1110; *see also Nationstar Mortg., LLC v. SFR Invs. Pool 1, LLC*, 184 F. Supp. 3d 853, 857–58
19 (D. Nev. 2016). In other words, “demonstrating that an association sold a property at its
20 foreclosure sale for an inadequate price is not enough to set aside that sale; there must also be a
21 showing of fraud, unfairness, or oppression.” *Id.* at 1112; *see also Long v. Towne*, 639 P.2d 528,

22 ⁴ *See, e.g., Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC v. Alessi & Koenig, LLC*, 962 F. Supp. 2d 1222, 1229
23 (D. Nev. 2013) (“[T]he sale for \$10,000 of a Property that was worth \$176,000 in 2004, and which
24 was probably worth somewhat more than half as much when sold at the foreclosure sale, raises
25 serious doubts as to commercial reasonableness.”); *SFR Investments*, 334 P.3d at 418 n.6 (noting
26 bank’s argument that purchase at association foreclosure sale was not commercially reasonable);
27 *Thunder Props., Inc. v. Wood*, No. 3:14-cv-00068-RCJ-WGC, 2014 WL 6608836, at *2 (D. Nev.
28 Nov. 19, 2014) (concluding that purchase price of “less than 2% of the amounts of the deed of
trust” established commercial unreasonableness “almost conclusively”); *Rainbow Bend
Homeowners Ass’n v. Wilder*, No. 3:13-cv-00007-RCJ-VPC, 2014 WL 132439, at *2 (D. Nev.
Jan. 10, 2014) (deciding case on other grounds but noting that “the purchase of a residential
property free and clear of all encumbrances for the price of delinquent HOA dues would raise
grave doubts as to the commercial reasonableness of the sale under Nevada law”); *Will v. Mill
Condo. Owners’ Ass’n*, 848 A.2d 336, 340 (Vt. 2004) (discussing commercial reasonableness
standard and concluding that “the UCIOA does provide for this additional layer of protection”).

1 530 (Nev. 1982) (“Mere inadequacy of price is not sufficient to justify setting aside a foreclosure
2 sale, absent a showing of fraud, unfairness or oppression.” (citing *Golden v. Tomiyasu*, 387 P.2d
3 989, 995 (Nev. 1963) (stating that, while a power-of-sale foreclosure may not be set aside for mere
4 inadequacy of price, it may be if the price is grossly inadequate and there is “in addition proof of
5 some element of fraud, unfairness, or oppression as accounts for and brings about the inadequacy
6 of price” (internal quotation omitted)))).

7 Notably, the *Shadow Wood* court did not adopt the restatement’s position on the 20%
8 threshold test for grossly inadequate sales price. *Compare Shadow Wood*, 366 P.3d at 1112–13
9 (citing the restatement as secondary authority to warrant use of the 20% threshold test for grossly
10 inadequate sales price), *with St. James Village, Inc. v. Cunningham*, 210 P.3d 190, 213 (Nev. 2009)
11 (explicitly adopting § 4.8 of the Restatement in specific circumstances); *and Foster v. Costco*
12 *Wholesale Corp.*, 291 P.3d 150, 153 (Nev. 2012) (“[W]e adopt the rule set forth in the Restatement
13 (Third) of Torts: Physical and Emotional Harm section 51.”); *and Cucinotta v. Deloitte & Touche,*
14 *LLP*, 302 P.3d 1099, 1102 (Nev. 2013) (affirmatively adopting the Restatement (Second) of Torts
15 section 592A). Because Nevada courts have not adopted the relevant section(s) of the restatement
16 at issue here, the *Long* test, which requires a showing of fraud, unfairness, or oppression in addition
17 to a grossly inadequate sale price to set aside a foreclosure sale, controls. *See* 639 P.2d at 530.

18 Nevada has not clearly defined what constitutes “unfairness” in determining commercial
19 reasonableness. The few Nevada cases that have discussed commercial reasonableness state,
20 “every aspect of the disposition, including the method, manner, time, place, and terms, must be
21 commercially reasonable.” *Levers v. Rio King Land & Inv. Co.*, 560 P.2d 917, 920 (Nev. 1977).
22 This includes “quality of the publicity, the price obtained at the auction, [and] the number of
23 bidders in attendance.” *Dennison v. Allen Grp. Leasing Corp.*, 871 P.2d 288, 291 (Nev. 1994)
24 (citing *Savage Constr. v. Challenge–Cook*, 714 P.2d 573, 574 (Nev. 1986)).

25 Here, plaintiff fails to set forth sufficient evidence to show fraud, unfairness, or oppression
26 so as to justify the setting aside of the foreclosure sale. Plaintiff’s argument focuses on the
27 purchase price at the foreclosure sale. (ECF No. 57). Plaintiff’s motion overlooks the reality of
28 the foreclosure process. The amount of the lien—not the fair market value of the property—is

1 what typically sets the sales price. Further, sale price alone is insufficient to satisfy the *Long* test.
2 *See, e.g., Nationstar Mortg., LLC*, No. 70653, 2017 WL 1423938, at *3 n.2 (“Sale price alone,
3 however, is never enough to demonstrate that the sale was commercially unreasonable; rather, the
4 party challenging the sale must also make a showing of fraud, unfairness, or oppression that
5 brought about the low sale price.”).

6 Plaintiff also cites to the CC&R mortgage protection clause as evidence of fraud,
7 unfairness, or oppression. (ECF No. 57). This court has rejected plaintiff’s argument that a CC&R
8 mortgage protection clause, without more, demonstrates fraud or unfairness that would justify
9 setting aside a foreclosure sale. *See, e.g., Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC v. SFR Investments Pool*
10 *1, LLC*, no 2:14-cv-01875-JCM-GWF, 2017 WL 1100955, at *9 (D. Nev. Mar. 22, 2017). Plaintiff
11 has not demonstrated fraud, unfairness, or oppression, and its commercial reasonability argument
12 fails as a matter of law. *See Shadow Wood*, 366 P.3d at 1110.

13 **IV. Conclusion**

14 In light of the foregoing, plaintiff has not shown that it is entitled to judgment as a matter
15 of law on its claim for quiet title. Plaintiff’s motion fails to demonstrate a legal or equitable basis
16 to quiet title in its favor.

17 Conversely, defendant has demonstrated that it is entitled to judgment as a matter of law
18 on plaintiff’s claim for quiet title. Pursuant to *SFR Investments*, NRS Chapter 116, and the
19 trustee’s deed upon sale, the foreclosure sale extinguished the deed of trust. Plaintiff has failed to
20 raise any genuine issues of material fact to preclude summary judgment in defendant’s favor.
21 Therefore, the court will grant defendant’s motion for summary judgment.

22 Accordingly,

23 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED that plaintiff’s motion for
24 summary judgment (ECF No. 57) be, and the same hereby is, DENIED.

25 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that defendant motion for summary judgment (ECF No. 47)
26 be, and the same hereby is, GRANTED.

27 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that defendant’s motion to strike (ECF No. 63) be, and the
28 same hereby is, DENIED as moot.

1 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant GSDT shall submit a proposed judgment to
2 the court within thirty (30) days of the date of this order.

3 DATED March 9, 2018.

4 
5 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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